

*****NOTICE*****



THIS FALL, USFWS STAFF WILL BE CONDUCTING DITCH MAINTENANCE THROUGHOUT THE UPPER AND LOWER POOLS OF THE CONCORD IMPOUNDMENTS USING AN AMPHIBIOUS EXCAVATOR SIMILAR TO THE ONE PICTURED ABOVE. CLEANING OUT EXCESS SEDIMENT THAT HAS BUILT UP IN THE DITCHES OVER THE YEARS IS CRITICAL TO ENHANCING OUR ABILITY TO EFFECIENTLY MANAGE WATER LEVELS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. BEING ABLE TO MORE EFFICIENTLY MANGE WATER LEVELS WILL ULTIMATELY RESULT IN BETTER HABITAT FOR WILDLIFE.

AT THE SAME TIME AS THE DITCH MAINTENANCE OCCURS, USFWS STAFF WILL ALSO BE CREATING ADDITIONAL DEEP WATER POOLS THAT WILL SERVE AS REFUGIA FOR THE STATE LISTED BLANDINGS TURTLES, AND OTHER AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES DURING PERIODS OF LOW WATER LEVELS.

THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE PROJECT, REFUGE STAFF WILL BE RADIO TRACKING BLANDINGS TURLES TO DETERMINE THEIR LOCATION AND MAKE SURE THEY ARE NOT IN THE PATH OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT.

WORK WILL BE CONDUCTED DURING THE FALL OF 2011 UP UNTIL FREEZE CONDITIONS AND WILL CONTINUE AGAIN DURING LATE SUMMER AND FALL OF 2012 IF NEEDED.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS PLEASE VISIT OUR WEB SITE OR CALL OR EMAIL OUR COMPLEX BIOLOGIST STEPHANIE KOCH AT (978)-443-4661 EXT-24 OR Stephanie_Koch@fws.gov.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Refuge Management

